

BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



HOROSCOPE

For Friday, May 8, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Making that special deal is possible. Make sure you're aware of all the details involved.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your stubborn streak is showing once again. You're not ready to accept a change on the

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A technological matter has you stumped. Perhaps not surprisingly, a child has the answer.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A romantic tryst comes off just as you'd planned. Later in the day, you catch up on correspondence.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) You can't get by on good looks and charisma alone. You need to further your knowledge about a work project.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Your desire for a change on the work front is premature. Stick with the status quo to be on the safe side.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Your emotions once again in check, you can tackle pressing chores. Try to free up some time during the afternoon for a matter concerning a child.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) The news you receive takes you by surprise; however, you can turn it to your advantage.

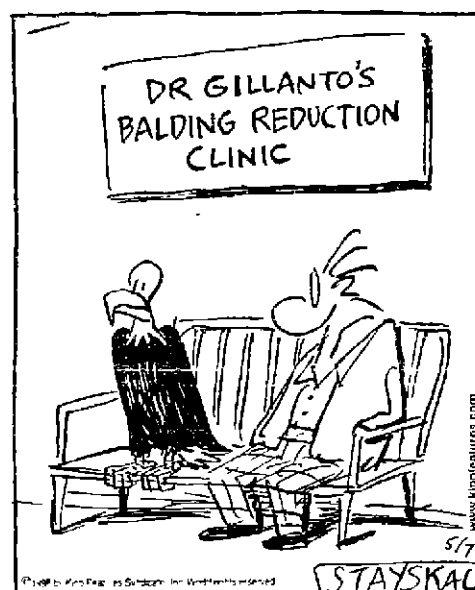
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You're positively ebullient on the social scene. You're not so lucky on the job.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Everyone around you is willing to pitch in on that project. With the extra help you get the job done in no time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) It's one thing to enjoy yourself. It's quite another to be so hedonistic.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) You're in a low-key mood as the day begins. However, the pace picks up, and soon you're frantically trying to get things done.

RALPH



WORD SLEUTH

The Iditarod

MDAXUQNKHESBYVS
PMJHEBYVTQMOLIG
DBYWTRNAKSALAPM
KIANCHORAGEFDBY
WUCOURSESOTQOMK
IFDBZDNHXDUWUSQ
ONLJEOECARMMHFD
CAYLMWWTVTASQPN
LKSEIKSUHRLIART
IHFEGBZBCLAUNNA
YWVUSREHSUMROPN

Wednesday's unlisted clue: YARN

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Thursday's unlisted clue hint: THE 49TH STATE

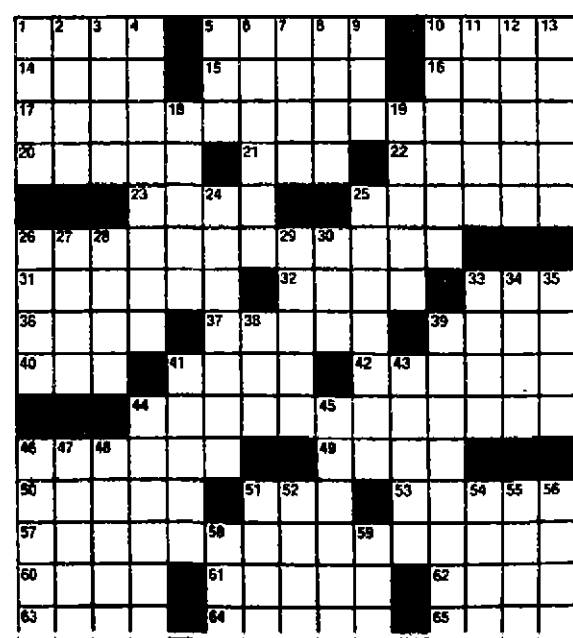
Anchorage	Dogs	Musher	Swenson
Annual	Huskies	Nome	Teams
Butcher	Malamute	Race	Trail
Course	March	Sleds	

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For solution, see Classified.

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0326



Puzzle by Cathy Nivens

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BRIDAL ARMOIRE
AERATE CHESTER
AMAZON BETHOMAS
EMIT NEA ASP
ACH NOSIA QIER
RHODA USS WENDY
GEORGE SHWIN
ORDAIN OLOIES
PLACIDOMINGO
ONGEE ADO AXIOM

ELI BAG FATE
GENEWAN RIDGED
NOTABLE ELMINO
ANOMALY STANDS

31 In Europe, say
32 Tapping target
33 Work surface, sometimes
36 Flue residue
37 Rousseau work
39 Obi-Wan, for one
40 "Yo!"
41 S.L. protector
42 Cop's order
44 What they said to Dumbo?
46 Accumulate money (for)
48 Yeats's land
50 Like a roc
51 Directly, directionally
53 Icy
57 Is a conscientious pest?

60 Smell — (sense wrong)
61 Summoned, on "ER"
62 Reliable
63 Louis, Carrie and Bill
64 Dummy Mortimer
65 Big — Conference

DOWN
1 Two-wheeled carriage
2 Pickup shuck?
3 Greek-style contest
4 Searing
5 Racket
6 Like some heroes
7 Ancient ally of Sparta
8 Beret holder
9 TV actor Gilliam
10 Famous star
11 Whopper topper
12 Ultraviolet Index factor
13 Hues
18 Composer
19 40's-50's Yankees
20 All-Star pitcher
21 Finished
22 First auto to offer seat belts
27 Word from the French for "high wood"

38 City near Albany
39 Doubly
40 It may be essential
41 Sinister look
42 Wood trimmer
43 Variegated
44 Russian orbiter
45 30's singer
46 MacDonald

47 "Cosmos" series creator
48 "Charlotte's Web" boy
49 Bios of a sort
50 Gorilla researcher
51 Fossey

52 Yen
53 It's spent in Trent
54 DeeJay Don
55 Insect repellent ingredient
56 Photo
57 Kooky

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ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

East saw the way to beat today's game; unfortunately, the lights came on only at the post-mortem. East chose a "safe" spade return, a play that gave the game away. South

queen at trick one, and East won his ace. Unwilling to break either minor, East returned his spade jack, a lead that could not lose a trick. South won dummy's king, cashed dummy's trump 10, and then ruffed dummy's last spade. With feigned magnanimity, he then led a club. Now the defense was helpless. After the defense took their two top clubs, either defender was end-played. He had to lead a spade for a ruff and sluff or break the diamond suit. A diamond lead from either side offered a free finesse, and South had his 10 winners. East could and should have made a bold move at trick two. Using "top of nothing" leads, West had led fourth-best, confirming that South had only two spades. East therefore had nothing to gain by returning a spade at trick two. He should have switched to a low club. The underlead could lose little and might score two club tricks even if West held the queen instead of the king. In the actual layout, West wins his club king and returns a club to East's ace. Now, it's truly safe to return a spade, and South must play the diamond suit himself. He has no way to avoid a diamond loser, and instead of 10 tricks, South gets only nine.

NORTH 65-07-A
♠ A Q 7
♥ J 10 9 5
♦ K 9 4
♣ 8 6

WEST
♠ 8 6 5 2
♥ 9 6 2
♦ K 7 5 4 2

EAST
♠ A J 10 9
♥ 4
♦ 10 8 5 3
♣ A 10 9 3

SOUTH
♠ 4 3
♥ A K Q 5 3 2
♦ A J 7
♣ Q J

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 3♥ Pass
4♥ Pass Pass
*limit raise

Opening lead: Spade deuce

BRIDGE RESULTS

Bridge America: Tuesday morning, 1 NS, Bob Donahue, Doug Lyon; 2 NS, Sarah Florito, Janet Gillen; 1 EW, Jean Oberg, Janet Sinclair; 2 EW, Bob Seymour, Julie Sunser; Saturday evening, first, Allene Huntley, Don Paulus; second, Jack McCrea, Mike Walsh.

The Bridge Studio: Sunday afternoon, first, Joanne Baccile, Bill Foster; second, Allene Huntley, Don Paulus; Sunday evening, first, Doug Lyon, John Poppo; second, Ellen Dixon, Mary Walsh; Monday morning, first, Doug Lyon, Milt Rosenblum; second, Ralph Carley, Sarah Florito; Monday evening, first, Ron Dewey, Paul Peters; second, Joanne Baccile, Dale Swift; Tuesday evening, first/second, John Chappell, John DeMaria; Mary Walsh, Cornelius Yoder; Wednesday evening, first, Allene Huntley, Don Paulus; second, John Chappell, Murray Hall; Thursday morning teaching game, 1 NS, Debi Belanger, Sheila Comerford; 2 NS, Louis Bashaw, Janet Sinclair; 1 EW, Sarah Myers, Judy Sommers; 2 EW, Virginia Cluse, Alma Leech; Thursday evening, first, Bill Barrington, Bill Oliver; second, Carl Hileman, Doug Lyon; Friday morning first/second, Dennis Cleary, Diana Cleary; Edith Farnham, Larry Sunser; Friday evening, first, Howard Cring, Ellen Dixon; second/third/fourth, John Glezen, Ron Enos; Bill Oliver, Ann Oliver; Peter Leonelli, Arlene Rainone.

Concord: 1 NS, Judy Ryan; 2 NS, Betty Burns, Mary Gorkin; 1 EW, John Gilstrap, Don Rich; 2 EW, Barb Reinschmidt, Gerry Wurdinger.

Liverpool: 1 NS, Judy Butcher, Sharlene Kostichka; 2 NS, Cio Morris, Joan Phillips; 1 EW, Rosemary Dunn, Peg Healestein; 2 EW, Judy Ortiz, Louise Staring.

Stonehedge: 1 NS, Judy Butcher, Anne Divers; 2 NS, Jane Hackbarth, Lil Parkhurst; 1 EW, Lucy Curry, Ann Carmola; 2 EW, Fran McCarthy, Cio Morris.

Syracuse Contract: Wednesday evening, John Herman, Rick Olonoff; second, Bernice Gorkin, Mary Gorkin, Thursday afternoon, first, Mary Gorkin, Dot Joiner; second, Betty Burns, Anne Scharmach.

Western Hills: 1 NS, Madeline Leyden, Nancy Rude; 2 NS, Ginny Lewis, Dot Thurlow; 1 EW, Mary Kennedy, Bernice Williams; 2 EW, Alyce Martin, Mary Waters.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actor Darren McGavin is 76. Singer Teresa Brewer is 67. Football Hall-of-Famer Johnny Unitas is 65. Singer Jimmy Ruffin is 59. Singer Johnny Maestro is 59. Actress Robin Strasser is 53. Actor Robert Hegyes is 47. Movie writer-director Amy Heckerling ("Clueless") is 44. Actor Michael Knight ("All My Children") is 39. Rock musician Phil Campbell (Motorhead) is 37. Rock singer Chris O'Connor (Primitive Radio Gods) is 33. Actress Traci Lords is 29.